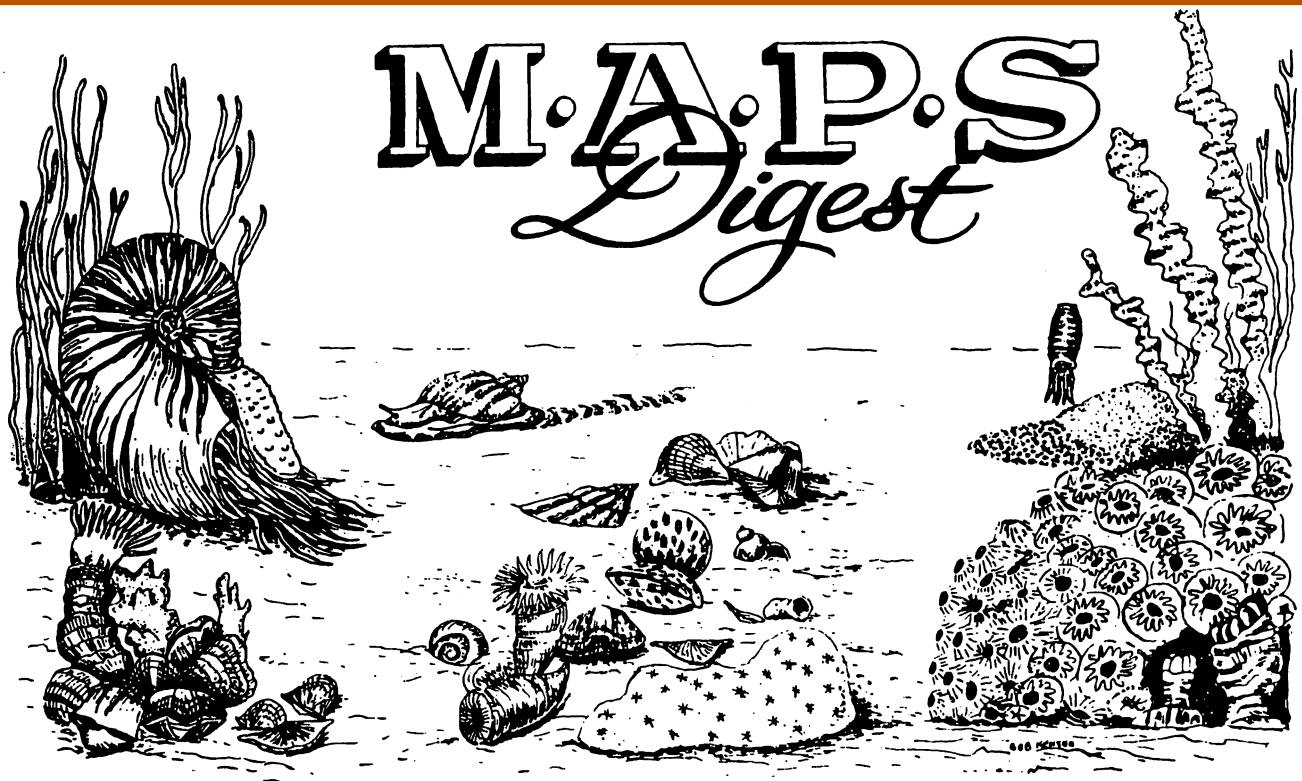
VOLUME 7 NUMBER 3

M·A·P·S Digest



Official Publication of
Mid-America Paleontology Society

March, 1984

BUSINESS

Due to legal matters, the procedures we had been following were not correct in our attempt to adopt Restated Articles of Incorporation from the State of Iowa and must be done over. Under separate cover you will receive copies of the proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation with the State of Iowa and changes proposed in the Amended By-Laws (for these purposes, the Constitution and By-Laws shall be treated as one and the same document). Included will be proxies which may be used to vote on the two proposals at a special meeting of the members of Mid-America Paleontology Society to be held at the Union at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois at 7:30 p.m. on the 14th day of April, 1984.

The Executive Board

Minutes of a special meeting of the Executive Board and Board of Directors held at 1:00 p.m. at Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, on February 4, 1984.

All members of the Executive Board and Board of Directors were given written notice of special business that would be held today concerning a resolution to adopt Restated Articles of Incorporation and Amended By-Laws for

(continued page 2)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

3 Mar -- MAPS MEETING -- Augustana College Rock Island, Illinois
1:00 p.m. Board Meeting
2:00 p.m. MAPS Meeting
Prof. Jeff Schabilion, University of Iowa, Iowa City. Topic Pennsylvanian Plants -- "What's New in Coal Swamps" -- A general presentation on the kinds of research and the things they learn. It's not a repeat program, but it holds just as much promise.

26 Feb -- FIELD TRIP -- Repository The University of Iowa.
1:00 -- Towbridge Hall, 123 N. Capitol. Tour of facilities, visit fossil collections and/or dinner.

7 Apr -- MAPS Meeting -- Augustana College Rock Island, Illinois

13 Apr -- EXPO VI -- MAGIC DAYS -- Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL
14
15 ALL SYSTEMS GO -- A FOSSIL HOLLIDAY

16 Apr -- FIELD TRIP -- Doug DeRosear our Leader

15 June - Bedford Rock Swap -- 4-H Fairgrounds
16 MAPS MEETING -- Bedford, Indiana
17

26 Oct -- FOSSILMANIA -- Austin Paleontological
27, 28 Society -- OYSTER PARADISE

SECRETARY'S REPORT

President Peggy Wallace called the February meeting of MAPS to order on the 4th of February, 1984, at Augustana College. On this date, six years ago 18 people were present for the very first meeting of our club. A very happy birthday to us! We were honored to have with us some of those people who were present at that first meeting. Peg Wallace, our President, called for comments about that meeting, the following people offered their thoughts. Dick Johannesen: "Six years ago we were not yet a club, 18 people met, with 2 traveling from Wisconsin (Mary & John Boland). We were all just individual collectors and interested in sharing our knowledge. One month later, the number of people doubled to 36. Talking with the Dean of Augustana and Dr. Anderson (Director) they each voiced their pleasure in the fact that so many were interested in sharing what they know."

Don Good: "Well, I guess they would call me the Mother of MAPS. I remember calling Augustana to set up the meeting--2 years later we became International. A gentleman from Japan sent us 1500 wan ($14.50) to help us out and become a member himself. He supported us for many years and was a friend to our organization. Ed. comment, Dick Johannesen is presently in the process of making a slide program on plants dedicated to this very man.) Among the first people at our meetings were the Crays, Goods, Doug DeRosear, Dick Johannesen, the Bolands, Norris's Fairbanks and Dennis Kingery."

Peg commented that the first meeting was a spark of genius and that we owe everyone involved a great deal of thanks.

The Secretary's Report was then read and accepted.

The next order of business was the Treasurer's report which was read by Allyn Adams. Allyn reported that the club had $1,163.82 in checking, $1,103.37 in savings, and a bal ance of $2,267.32.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read.

Peg then asked for a report from the Audit Committee. Tom Walsh reported all to be well our books are in good shape.

We had a report on Expo from Karl Stueker-juergenwho informed the club that we will have a guest from Bolivia and again from Germany.

On upcoming trips, Don Good asked everyone to pray for snow removal so we can proceed in hunting. Trips in the future are in planning and one to Humbolt will be announced at a later date.

Marvin Houg spoke about a visit to the Repository at The University of Iowa on the 26th of February. Anyone interested in participating, please contact Marv.

Madelynne Lillybeck proposed that the club send a contribution to the Strimple Award Fund. The club had discussion and Dick Johannesen moved we send $50, Madelynne seconded. All voted unanimously. In addition, if you have any experiences with Harrold Strimple which you could share in a short story form, please send to Madelynne for part of the Strimple Memorial Edition of the Digest, EXPO Edition. (Needed by March 20).

Peg than handed the meeting over to Marvin Houg who presented Don Good and Jim Daniels with slides and a lecture on their trip to northern Nebraska, and southern SD. Don explained the trip and provided us with some great places to find bones, teeth, and petrified wood. (Ed. comment, Don's comment "Last month we soaked it up (slides on sponges) this month we sunk our teeth into it') We travelled with Don as guide to Ainsworth, NE, where we picked up some ammonites, to Hot Springs (home of the on-going Mammoth dig), to Toadstool where we find turtles and bones, and up into South Dakota to find Red Rock Canyon where we viewed Petroglyphs (ancient Indian drawings) and belemnites and teeth.

Don suggested the book White River Badlands as a great guide to identification for fossils in this area.

Marv informed us Jeff Shebilar will present the program next month.

Peg Wallace adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

A special thanks to Ray Fairbank for running off copies of "First of the Montana Mamas" from the Bozeman Alumni Monthly.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Wells, Secretary
*****

BUSINESS, Continued

Mid-America Paleontology Society. Board members present were: Peggy Wallace, Marvin Houg, Mary Wells, Allyn Adams, Tom Walsh, Doug DeRosear and Bob Durnal.

Proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation of Mid-America Paleontology Society and Amended By-Laws were presented to the Board for consideration

(for these purposes, the Constitution and By-Laws were treated as one and the same document). The Board members present voted 7 for 0 against to adopt the Restated Articles of Incorporation in its entirety and the Amended By-Laws of the Corporation, and to submit the same to a vote of all the members of the Corporation at a special meeting of the members.

The Board also adopted a Resolution directing that a special meeting of the members of Mid-America Paleontology Society be held on April 14, 1984, at the Union at Western Illinois Universitym Macomb, Illinois at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of voting on whether to accept the proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation and The Proposed By-Laws. The Board voted to give all members with voting rights a written notice of the meeting along with copies of the proposed Restated Articles of Incorporation and Amended By-Laws. Proxies are also included on the two proposals for those who cannot attend the meeting. Members are to receive this mailing no less than 10 or more than 50 days prior to the meeting. All proxies mailed back to the Board for voting may be sent to the Secretary, Mary Wells, 2233 Lillie Avenue, Davenport, IA 52804 and must be received by April 7, 1984.

Respectfully submitted
Mary Wells, Secretary

*****

Me and My Shadow
Making plans for EXPO SIX.

Me and My Shadow
Friends and fossils we
will surely mix.

From 30 states and Germany
Neighbor Canada, Bolivia, too

WOW! Displays, Auction and Exchanges

It's MAGIC in April at EEEEEEX PO SIX!!

Hope You'll Be There -- Yeah!!

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

* Now there is just one little matter ---- *
* If -- you've forgotten to PAY YOUR DUES *
* This will be the last Digest you will re- *
* ceive. Pop your check into the mail, or *
* better yet, bring it to EXPO with you!! *

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

SEDIMENTARY NOTES

Special Thanks to: DRY DREDGERS FOSSIL CLUB Cincinnati, OH, FOSSILETTER, Rochester, NY and Austin Paleontological Society, Austin, TX for your beautiful coverage of MAPS EXPO. Hope we see you at EXPO.

BILL FLURKEY, Burr Ridge, IL -- Hope you and your wife get to EXPO. You'll find lots of Chicago area friends and lots of fun and lots of new friends.

WILLIAM F. RAY, Simpsonville, SC -- would like a series of articles on the care and cleaning of fossils and cataloging fossils. Any volunteers? Good material for FROM THE MATRIX.

STAN HYNE, Ann Arbor, MI -- Because of an article in the October Digest he obtained the book "A Guide to Fossil Sharks, Sharks, & Rays from the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Area." Stan says, "this book was worth many times the cost of belonging to MAPS." Terrific!!

CLARENCE M. SCHUCHMAN, Sacramento, CA -- For your group -- nothing but high praise. Many thanks, Clarence. Want to do an article on your beloved ammonites? Guess that's rather unfair. Your kind words are truly appreciated.

TOM WITHERSPOON, "The Old Man", Dearborn, MI -- Tom and I are eagerly waiting for the greatest fossil expo on earth! Am looking forward to seeing all of our MAPS friends at Expo.

LES & PHYLLIS HARRIS, Sarnia, Ont. -- Plenty of snow, which curtails collecting. So will spend the time cleaning and cataloguing fossils. . . .looking forward to Expo VI so will see you there.

THE SUTHERLANDS, Bishop, CA --We have made a number of new friends since we joined last spring, and hope to make many more. Weather and all else permitting we will get our chance at Expo 6.

We are taking off in the morning for Hawaii. . . no fossils, just lava, papaya, and sugar cane. You might be interested to know that fresh-water moluscs of Pleistocene age are found at Moomomi on Molokai. I have an even dozen species.

FRED & ESTHER LABAHN, Prescott, AZ -- I would like to suggest that if anyone in MAPS has access to the Journal of Paleontology or other

(continued page 9)

FROM THE MATRIX

PHYLLOCARIDS

Submitted by
Lloyd, Metta, and Val Gunther
28 North 2nd West
Brigham City, Utah 84302

Among the many diverse forms of Arthropods is a little known group of bivalve Crustaceans that often go unnoticed or unrecognized by fossil collectors. These belong to the Class Malacostraca, Subclass Phyllocarida. The name Phyllocarid (phyllo, leaf; carid, shrimp) is quite descriptive of the group as the carapace or valves present a leaflike appearance and the soft body itself resembles that of a shrimp, which is a close relative. Superficially, they also resemble large ostracods.

Most fossil phyllocarides occur in paleozoic rocks although there are modern representatives of this group living today. They are nearly all marine and have worldwide distribution. Undoubtedly the best known and best preserved specimens of fossil phyllocarids come from the famous Middle Cambrian, Burgess Shale of British Columbia. Here they have been found with their soft body parts and appendages nicely preserved. Other paleozoic localities where they have been found with their appendages preserved include Scotland, France, Germany, and South Korea. In life their exockeletons were not mineralized and therefore their preservation is uncommon.

However, in most areas where phyllocarids are found, it is only the carapace or valves that are preserved. In size the valves of the various known species range from about 8 mm to 125 mm in length. The two valves commonly possess a flexible hinge line on the dorsal side. Some species possess marginal spines, others lateral spines, and some have none. This aids in their identification. The valves cover the forepart of the body but is not joined or fused to any part of the thorax.

In recent years an increasing number of phyllocarids have been discovered in the Middle Cambrian shales of northern and western Utah and in variety closely approach those of the Burgess Shale of Canada. In Utah they are commonly associated with trilobites, sponges, hyolithids, carpoids, eocrinoids, and brachiopods.

Dr. Richard A. Robison at the University of Kansas and B. C. Richards of the Geological Survey of Canada describe 12 species of these Utah bivalve arthropods in a 1981 publication. Those wishing to learn more about this rather poorly known element of the Cambrian fauna are referred to this paper:

> LARGER BIVALVE ARTHROPODS FROM THE MIDDLE CAMBRIAN OF UTAH by R. A. Robison and B. C. Richards, The University of Kansas - Paleontological Contributions - Paper 106. Lawrence, Kansas 66045. Price: $4.00.

Since this paper was published we have now discovered several phyllocarids from the Middle Cambrian-Marjum Formation in western Utah with some of the soft body parts preserved. These specimens are currently being jointly studied and will be described by Dr. Robison and Dr. Derek Briggs of England.

A few examples of Middle Cambrian phyllocarids are shown in the following sketches. All are lateral views.

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Look forward to FROM THE MATRIX:

> THE MAZON CREEK NODULES
> Jim and Sylvia Konecny
>
> THE BURLINGTON FORMATION
> Doug DeRosear
>
> DIATOMS: QUEEN OF MICROFOSSILS
> Richard B. Hoover

*****

PS-PRI NEWS -- volume 1, number 1, 1983 (December

NEW BRYOZOAN TREATISE -- The long awaited revision of part G has now been published, in part. Volume I: (Introduction, Order Cystoporata, Order Cryptostomata); xxvi + 626 pages is now available for $48.00 US postpaid from Publication Sales Department, Geological Society of America, P.O. Box 8140, Boulder, Colorado 80301 USA. GSA members may claim a discount on purchase of this and other Treatise volumes. According to the advertising circular, "this is the first of a probably five-volume revision."

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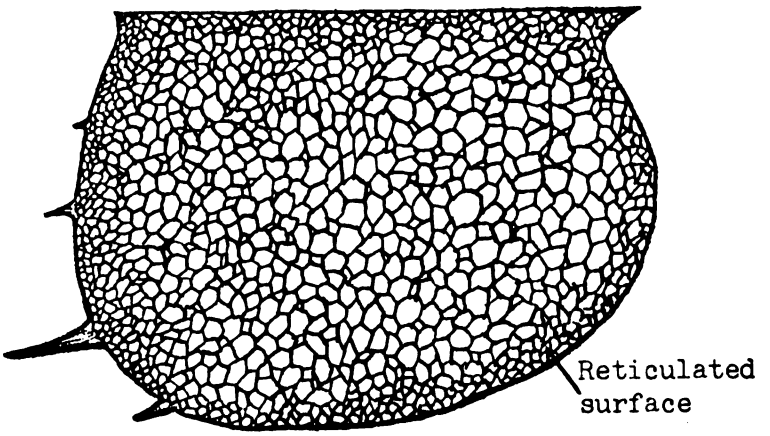
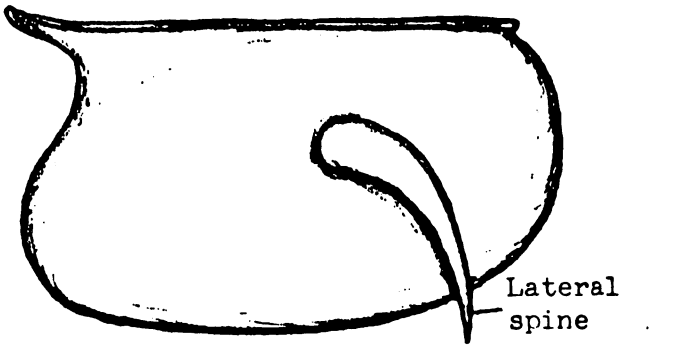
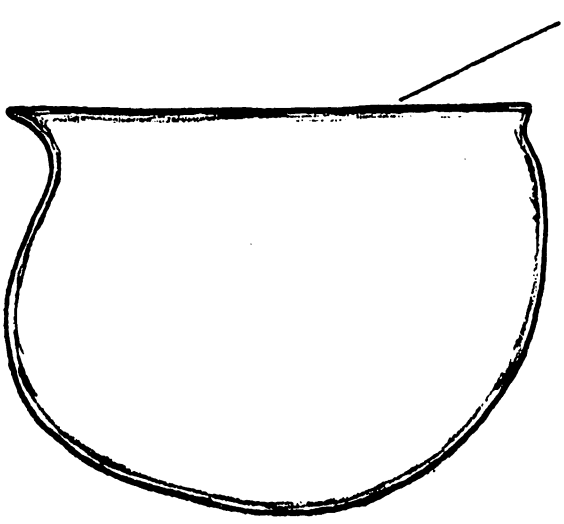


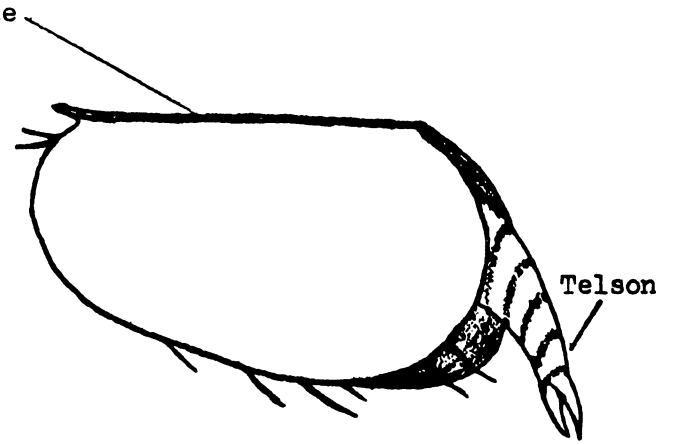
Tuzoia guntheri Robison & Richards
Middle Cambrian
Marjum Formation
House Range, Utah



Pseudoarctolepis sharpi Brooks & Caster
Middle Cambrian
Wheeler Formation
House Range, Utah



Branchiocaris sp.
Middle Cambrian
Wheeler Formation
Drum Mountains, Utah



Canadaspis sp.
Middle Cambrian
Stephen Formation
British Columbia, Canada

THE PROFESSIONAL'S CORNER -- Dr. Merrill Foster -- Copyright, 1984

Bradley University
Geology Department
Peoria, Illinois 61614

IN PURSUIT OF THE ICY BRACHIOPOD RESULTS

Are Brachiopods Near Extinction Today? ---

Recent brachiopods are often regarded as a very insignificant or rare portion of the modern benthos (bottom-living organisms) and to represent a low point on a brachiopod decline that has been going ever downward since the end of the Permian. Barnes (1968) in an earlier edition of a popular textbook on invertebrate zoology stated that brachiopods are ". . .apparently on the road to extinction." My own work suggests that these popular ideas are incorrect. Brachiopods today are at a lower level with regards to fundamental variety and numbers, particularly in warm shallow water, compared to where they were in the Paleozoic. Nevertheless, they are still doing quite well and were not declining through the Mesozoic and Cenozoic. In fact, there is no convincing evidence that they are not doing as well or better today than they did in say the Jurassic. On my two cruises to Antarctica I collected over 12,000 live brachiopods and over 10,000 empty brachiopod shells. These were taken from only 89 small successful bottom trawls and 23 tiny camera grabs. Eighty-eight percent of the bottom trawls and sixty-five percent of the camera grabs contained brachiopods. A single small trawl made for a short time off Macquarie Island yielded over 6400 live brachiopods. It should be noted that in these operations, hard bottoms, the brachiopods favorite substrate were avoided. At nine different localities, brachiopods were dominant or one of several dominant members of the macroinvertebrates. In the Ross Sea, they seem to be almost as diverse and numerous as bivalved molluscs.

Taxonomy and Its Problems -- Introduction

Some professional paleontologists and possibly even more people who are not professional paleontologists but who have to deal with fossils have become very concerned about the rapidly increasing number of narrowly and often ill-defined species and genera. To make matters worse, paleontological works seldom include keys, particularly pictorial ones, to aid in distinguishing their genera and species. Immoderate numbers of genera and species present problems in identification, memorization and retention, and general treatment utilizing the taxa.

This problem exists to a varying degree in all major groups of fossils I have investigated, but it seems particularly noteworthy in brachiopods. Most brachiopod workers seem to follow procedures first spelled out in the 1930's by paleontologists with little or no biological background. In these schemes, families were based largely on major differences in the cardinalia, and species on minor details in the ornamentation and external shell form. There was no provision for characters that show variation within individual species. These workers also seldom reported on studies of large samples of individual species. I first had a serious encounter with some of these problems when I was studying Ordovician fossils from the Death Valley area in California. I etched the fossils out of one small limestone block. It contained over one thousand brachiopods that had been assigned to the same genus. Among these specimens, I could recognize typical specimens of each of the three different species assigned to this genus. However, there were also even more specimens that were unlike any of the recognized species but which formed a continuous morphological series between them. This strongly suggested to me that only one variable species exists and that the other presumed species are just phenotypic variants of that species. This also suggests the genus itself may not be viable since it contains only one species and all its related genera also contain only one species each. This analysis suggests possible danger in rigid assignment of categorical value to certain characters, to narrow definition of Taxa (plural of taxon - def. a particular group of organisms - i.e. we belong to the genus taxon Homo and the species taxon sapiens), and to little or no appreciation of variation within large population samples.

The two categories that I have directed the majority of my concern to have been the species and the genus. Many fossil brachiopod species differ by what seem to be the most trivial differences. They are also often based on a single specimen or only very small numbers of specimens. The genera differ by small, but usually distinct differences. They often contain only one species or a few species who often appear to just be variants of a single species. Genera and species are key categories in the long-ranging controversy in systematic biology and paleobiology

between the "lumpers" and "splitters." "Splitters" are individuals who are strongly analytical in their approach to organisms. They look very carefully for differences, even minute ones, among different specimens or different groups of specimens. They then use these differences to set up new separate taxa. "Splitters" work hard to prevent inclusion of unrelated or less related individuals or taxa in the same taxon. They are usually specialists on one particular taxon that they know extremely well. They usually classify characters rather than groups of organisms. The "splitting" approach normally results in large numbers of taxa and innumerable publications for the splitting scientist. Most paleontologists who specialize in taxonomy and some biologists tend toward this approach. "Lumpers" take almost the opposite tack from "splitters." They adopt a more synthetic approach to the classification of organism. They may also look very carefully for minute features that may differentiate individuals or taxa, but they don't stress using them to establish new taxa. Instead, they focus on grouping organisms based on their similarities. They tend to believe that too fine a division of taxa leads to an intolerable burden on the memory. They are not quite so worried as is the "splitter" about getting unrelated individuals or taxa included in the same taxon, if the taxon is useful. "Lumpers" tend to be generalists and work on more than one taxon of organisms. They focus on the groups of organisms rather than just the characters. "Lumpers" tend to establish fewer taxa and publish relatively fewer papers than "splitters". Most theoretically-oriented paleontologists and most biologists, particularly those who work on well-studied groups such as birds and mammals, are "lumpers". I personally lean toward this camp. Obviously there are scientists who take intermediate positions between these two views and try to get the most meaningful parts of both views.

The Species. ---

A large quantity of ink has been devoted to the definition and recognition of the species. There now seems to be a fairly general agreement that it is a group of individuals or populations that can freely interbreed in nature with each other but not with members of other such groups. They usually can be recognized by morphological, behavioural or ecological characteristics that differ from those of members of other such groups. Among well-known modern organisms, careful study can usually establish fairly objectively the validity of species in all but a few situations. Thus, in the present day, the species are, relatively speaking, our most objective taxa. Recognition of fossil species is much more difficult. There are fewer characters to use, often fewer specimens to study, and one can never test breeding behaviour. In addition, few comprehensive taxonomically-oriented studies have been made of modern taxa with significant fossil records.

The Genus. ---

The genus because of its frequent use, more distinct characteristics, broader geographic and chronologic ranges is probably the most important category in paleontology. It is also one of the greatest taxonomic problems because its regocnition always involves some subjectivity. Because of the subjectivity in its recognition it is a key category in the "splitting" vs "lumping" controversy. In principal, a genus is commonly regarded as a group of species who all evolved from a single ancestral species. A genus like this is said to be monophyletic. One that is not this way is said to be polyphyletic. This definition causes problems because even if we know the total ancestry of some related species, the size of the genera erected and the number of genera established can be quite variable. The further back in time you consider the ancestral species the broader and fewer in number your genera will be. For example, in the following evolution (Fig. 1), you can recognize one genus (sp. 1-5), two genera (sp. 1-4 and sp. 5), three genera (sp. 1, sp. 2-4, and sp. 5) or four genera (sp. 1, sp. 2-3, sp. 4, and sp. 5) depending on how far back in time you establish the ancestral species.

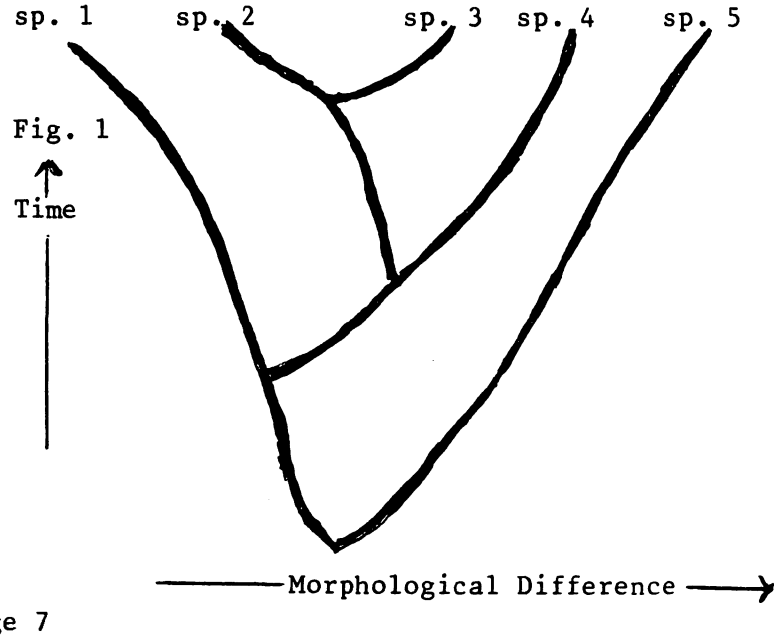


Fig. 1

Where we don't know the ancestry, which is the usual case, the recognition of genera become even more subjective.

The genus problem is particularly noteworthy in the phylum brachiopoda. The expression of the "splitting" approach is conspicuous here. Most amateurs and many geologists who don't specialize in brachiopods and even a few brachiopod specialists are concerned about what has happened to well known brachiopod genera such as Dictyoclostus (now Dictyoclostus, Antiquatonia, Peniculauris, Pugilis, Reticulatia, and probably a few others) and Marginifera (now Marginifera, Eomarginifera, Hystriculina, Kozlowskia, Desmoinesia, and probably a few others). There has even been a song written by Mankin (1973) expressing one geologist's probably annoyance at the proliferation of brachiopod genera. It is sung to the tune of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic". "Mine eyes have seen the splitting of the genus I adore -- It's been slyly subdividing into families galore --and with every publication comes another genus more! The names go rolling on -- Look what happened to Productus -- Oh what happened to Productus Gad, what happened to Productus --There's hundreds out of one. You play it by the numbers counting every little spine -- And you carefully determine if the ribbings coarse or fine -- But without the cardinal process its an utter waste of time -- You can't tell what goes on! -- Is it really true Productus? -- No it cannot be Productus -- Once it would have been Productus -- But now all hope is gone!" Every paleontologist would agree that Productus was too broad a genus and needed to be split up, but to some, including me, it seems to have now gone too far the other way, in this and many other brachiopod genera. Richard Grant (1980) estimated that a new brachiopod genus was being published every four days. He also stated that since the Treatise on brachiopods was published in 1965, 1300 additional new genera had been established. This figure is half the total number of described brachiopod genera. He posed the question as to whether this was progress or proliferation. Since he is author or co-author of over 124 different brachiopod genera, I suspect he favors the former answer to his question.

Antarctic Brachiopod Taxonomy. ---

A major aspect of my Antarctic research was to see what information a thorough study of Recent brachiopod populations might yield concerning the use of a hierarchy of characters in establishing various categories of brachiopod taxa, the recognition of genera and species, and the variations of characters in large populations over a wide geographic area. I was particularly interested in seeing how the "splitting" approach common in brachiopod taxonomy or the less common "lumping" approach would stand up when applied to large populations of living brachiopods in a limited area.

Intraspecific Variation. ---

There is much more variation within modern brachiopod species than is reported for most fossil species. Almost every character varies noticeably within a species. This variation can occur in the same individual at different ages or in different individuals at the same age. Some variants are obviously due to environmental factors. For example, the shell outline of the inarticulate Crania lecointei depends on the size and shape of the attachment surface. One scientist established a new species of Crania for an individual of Crania lecointei with a different outline. Some characters that are believed to be of value in generic determination can vary within a single population. For example, Allen (1939) used disjunct deltidial plates as one of the major characters of his new genus Aerothyris based on Magellania macquariensis from Macquarie Island. However, some specimens from this same species off the Antipodes Islands have conjunct deltidial plates. Some characters change in a regular linear fashion in populations along geographic gradients. This can be seen in Liothyrella uva that ranges in the Pacific Ocean from Panama down the west coast of South America through the islands between Cape Horn and the Antarctic Peninsula to Antarctica. As one moves southward into colder water the brachiopods in this species tend to have progressively fewer punctae (perforations in the shell wall), thinner shells, weaker spiculation, and a more regular mosaic of the shell wall fibers.

(Look forward to Species Taxonomy in May Digest)

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FOSSIL NEWS

A subway route is planned to run through the famous LaBrea Tar Pits, an ancient tar and oil bed that has yielded a treasury of fossil remains of prehistoric animals. The tar pit is located in downtown Los Angeles, California.

(Ed. Question: Can someone from California comment? Sounds devastating.)

from Pebble Pusher
via Pick and Chisel

SEDIMENTARY NOTES (Continu'd)

professional paleontology journals to advise members when fossils have been redescribed involving changes in genus or species or when new fossils have been described. Their are changes that appear in print without specific references and if these were noted with the publication we could bring our own collections up-to-date by trying to get copies of the reference.

ALBERTA AND BUD CRAY, CEDAR RAPIDS, IA -- call attention to DISCOVER, December, 1983. There is a fascinating article "Reburying A Fossil Treasure". Also included are pictures which tell as great a story as the article itself. The article is worth reproducing if permission can be obtained from DISCOVER.

FOSSIL FAIR, Bone Valley Museum, Bradley, FL -- Saturday, May 5, 1984. Sponsored by Florida Paleontological Society. Check your 1984 Membership Directory for details. This letter will go to LaVeta Hodges.

HAROLD MEALS, Los Angeles, CA -- I enjoyed attending FOSSILMANIA last fall, met a lot of nice people and added some superb specimens to my Oyster Collection. I am now working on plans to attend Expo VI.

Thanks, Austin Paleo for being a catalyst. I think this will be a first for Harold at Expo. We look forward to seeing you.

LLOYD & IRENE MILLHORN, Sherrodsville, OH -- . . .we donated our first material, between a peck and a half bushel, in 1969. But when it is done, there will be about fifty plates of cephalopods to make us drool. We were pleased when they named a clam for us, but it was a happy day when they named one of our cephalopods for us.

We are happy with the job that the officers have been doing for our club. If you will tell Don Good for me that I have been with him all the way on the matter of dropping out of the federation. I'm assistant state director for our state, so I have some ties with the federation. I feel that ours is stricktly a fossil group, as it should be, and that it can carry on its work very well as that only.. . .MAPS must do the work it does and not worry about it.

(Ed. comment. Many thanks, Lloyd. The opinion of a seasoned collector is greatly appreciated.) It was a sad day when we heard of the death of our friend Harrell Strimple. We had been referred to him over the years of collecting, but it was through MAPS that we got to trade with him and his wife.

ED HENNESSEY, Long Beach, CA -- sent a clipping about the Paluxy "tracks" from a site in Paluxy, Texas. Ed's words "the Paluxy site is a much championed hoax for the psuedo scientist. It won an appearance on the TV program "In Search Of...", which fortunately was a comprehensive small print disclaimer of authenticity."

DR. GARY LANE, Bloomington, IN -- This man has been extraordinarily generous with his time and expertise. He has a series on Stratigraphy coming up. If started now it would get interrupted--coming soon. If you would like to meet Dr. Lane, make plans to attend the Bedford Swap, June 15, 16, 17. Dr. Lane is usually there on Saturday.

BOB GUENTHER, Shelby, OH -- was the recipient of a Certificate of Appreciation Award given by the American Federation of Minerological Societies, Education Thru Sharing Honors Program for 1983. Bob was nominated for the honors recognition program by his fellow club members who cited him for his dedication for sharing his knowledge with others. The award was announced at the Annual Awards Banquet held in Spokane, Washington for the joint AFMS/NWFS Convention/Show, August. Earlier in the summer Bob was accorded 1st Runner-up honors in the Midwest Federation Education Thru Sharing Program. Congratulations Bob! Wish we could have all been there to say, "I know him" and then take you to dinner. GOOD SHOW See you at EXPO!

TOM & ROSEMARY AKERS, Spring, TX --These two MAPS members participated in a publication TEXAS CRETACEOUS BIVALVES AND LOCALITIES. Rose mary is an illustrator. Tom and Rosemary are using the photography instructions given by Dr. Lane in a recent series in the Digest. TERRIFIC! Let us know when the echinoid publication is ready.

VINCENT FIUME, Alleur Belgium --Welcome to MAPS. Monsieur Fiume would like a contact with an American to trade fossils. Maybe someone has been wanting to trade overseas--here's a chance. Hope you hear from someone Vincent. Bet you will!

TO EACH OF YOU who have written those encouraging notes, a most sincere thank you. Your response makes it all worthwhile. Love you!

The Mid-America Paleontology Society (MAPS) was formed to promote popular interest in the subject of paleontology, to encourage the proper collecting, study, preparation, and display of fossil material; and to assist other individuals, groups and institutions interested in the various aspects of paleontology. It is a non-profit society incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa.

Membership in MAPS is open to anyone, anywhere who is sincerely interested in fossils and the aims of the Society.

Membership fee: January 1 through December 31 is $7.00 per household.

MAPS meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of each month (2nd Saturday if inclement weather). September, October, May, June and July meetings are scheduled field trips. The August meeting is in conjunction with the Bedford, Indiana Swap. November through April meetings are scheduled for 2 p.m. in the Science Building, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois. One annual Internation Fossil Exposition is held in the Spring.

MAPS official publication, MAPS DIGEST, is published 9 months of the year--October through June.

CYATHOCRINITES

FIRST CLASS MAIL

MID-AMERICA PALEONTOLOGY SOCIETY

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Dated Material - Meeting Notice